

Reading Instruction (E-9)

The St. Francis School Board believes reading is the most important skill that students acquire while in school. Reading is the foundation upon which all other academic achievement is built. The ability of students to read and comprehend what they have read is key to their success in life. Reading is a complex, interactive process that is a primary means of acquiring and using information. In addition, the Board believes that virtually all children can learn to read and write along side their peers and supports the new literacy standard that focuses on children's thinking before, during and after reading and writing activities.

Therefore, the Board directs the District to implement a pre-kindergarten through grade 12 reading program that includes frequent assessment that measures individual student progress toward reading proficiency and also includes an annual assessment of the reading program as a whole. The Board will establish reading goals for grades K-12 and the District will develop and implement reading curriculum and reading objectives in grades K-12. The development of the reading curriculum and objectives will be guided by the Wisconsin State Reading Association position statements on early literacy intervention, grouping practices, the role of the District's reading specialists, reading designed for middle and high schools, the relationship between reading and writing and assessment in reading.

Goals of the reading program include:

1. Identifying student's literacy needs.
2. Making literacy a District-wide priority.
3. Providing effective professional development to help teachers deliver literacy instruction across the curriculum.
4. Extending time for literacy.
5. Identifying and supporting literacy leaders.
6. Aligning the District's resources to support proven effective literacy instruction for all students.
7. Evaluating the reading curriculum and assessing individual student performance continuously.
8. Developing community support for literacy.

Legal Ref: WASB Code 341.1

Adopted: December 11, 2006